

THE SECOND VOLUME OF SPECIES PLANTARUM¹. — Every taxonomic botanist knows the value and convenience of having Species Plantarum within easy reach but the present issue of that famous work has much in addition to the original work. In my review² of Volume I, I tried to emphasize the richness of Mr. Stearn's introductory material. Now it is equally appropriate to focus attention upon the Appendix of the newly issued Volume II. The first sixty-eight pages of the one hundred and forty-eight page Appendix are devoted to "an index and bibliography interpreting and amending the abbreviated references to authorities by Linnaeus in the first edition of *Species Plantarum*" prepared by J. L. Heller. The intricacies and inconsistencies of the literature citations in Species Plantarum are a severe hurdle for the average user of this work. One is fairly frequently led astray by some quirk of citation not easily determined and only after much struggling does he manage to return to the correct path of search. Heller's meticulously prepared notations should go far to help the unwary find his quest when looking for a Linnaean reference.

Mr. Stearn's contributions to the Appendix include a section of notes on illustrations and a section of four supplementary Linnaean publications including Methodus (1736), Demonstrationes Plantarum (1753), Genera Plantarum (1754) and Ordines Naturales (1764). In addition, he has provided a most useful index to the classes, genera and species of both Volumes I and II whereby, through a series of different symbols, the reader is given considerable information and led to many references on the typification of the genera.

All botanists are indebted to Mr. Stearn and the Ray Society for making Species Plantarum again available, but the added material at the beginning of Volume I and at the end of Volume II are alone worth what we are asked to pay for the entire work. — REED C. ROLLINS, GRAY HERBARIUM OF HARVARD UNIVERSITY.

¹ Species Plantarum by Carl Linnaeus. A Facsimile of the first edition, 1753. Volume II, with an appendix by J. L. Heller and W. T. Stearn. Publication No. 142 of the Ray Society, London, 1959. Sold by Bernard Quaritch Ltd., 11 Grafton St., London, W. 1. £3.

² Species Plantarum — More than a Facsimile Edition. Rhodora 60: 59-60, 1958.

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